

IN THE CLAIMS

Please substitute the following amended claims for corresponding claims previously presented. A copy of the amended claims showing current revisions is attached.

6. A modulator according to claim 4, wherein said predetermined time is ranging from about 0.1 seconds to about 30 seconds.

7. A modulator according to claim 4 wherein said cycle time is the sum of the predetermined times of all valves.

8. A modulator according to claim 2, wherein said cycle time is ranging from about 0.1 seconds to about 30 seconds.

9. A modulator according to claim 1, wherein each said nozzles has an opening in the form of a slit parallel to said capillary length.

11. A modulator according to claim 1, wherein each said nozzle is formed by a set of capillaries aligned in parallel to said capillary column length.

14. A modulator according to claim 1, wherein said nozzle(s) is(are) inserted in a metal socket.

16. A modulator according to claim 1, wherein said column length is mounted in stretched conditions.

17. Use of a modulator according to claim 1 for modulating the solute fractions issued by a first chromatographic column and to be fed to a second chromatographic column in a comprehensive two dimensional gas chromatographic system.

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18. Use of a modulator according to claim 1 for modulating the injected fractions immediately downstream the injector in a gas chromatographic system.

19. Use of a modulator according to claim 1, for modulating the eluting fractions from a gas chromatographic column immediately upstream the detector of a gas chromatographic system.